

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1 – 7 (cancelled)

8. (new) A method for compensating variations in a fuel composition in a gas turbine system having a plurality of burner stages operated in parallel, comprising:  
adjusting a fuel supply to the burner stages in response to the variations in the fuel composition;  
splitting the fuel supply between the burner stages; and  
keeping the fuel supply split between the burner stages at a constant target value during the adjustment of the fuel supply.

9. (new) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the gas turbine system comprises a pilot burner stage and a main burner stage and the fuel supply split between the pilot burner stage and the main burner stage is kept at a constant target value when the fuel supply is adjusted.

10. (new) The method as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein a plurality of fuel control valves are provided to the burner stages,  
wherein a regulator is allocated to the fuel control valves,  
wherein an analysis of the fuel composition is carried out at a real time,  
wherein a current Wobbe index of the fuel composition is calculated based on the analysis, and  
wherein the regulator and the fuel control valves are adjusted based on the calculated current Wobbe index.

11. (new) A control device for adjusting a fuel supply in a gas turbine system having a plurality of burner stages operated in parallel in which a plurality of fuel control valves are allocated to the burner stages and a regulator is allocated to the fuel control valves to compensate for variations in a fuel composition, comprising:

an analyzer for analyzing the fuel composition;

a computing unit for calculating a current Wobbe index of the fuel composition based on the analysis;

an updating unit for adjusting the regulator and the fuel control valves based on the calculated current Wobbe index to keep the fuel supply split between the burner stages at a constant target value.

12. (new) The control device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the computing unit is physically separated from the regulator.

13. (new) The control device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the computing unit is integrated into the regulator.

14. (new) The control device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the updating unit is physically separated from the regulator.

15. (new) The control device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the updating unit is integrated into the regulator.

16. (new) A gas turbine system, comprising:  
a plurality of burner stages operated in parallel in which a plurality of fuel control valves are allocated to the burner stages and a regulator is allocated to the fuel control valves; and  
a control device for adjusting a fuel supply in the gas turbine system to keep the fuel supply split between the burner stages at a constant target value to compensate for variations in a fuel composition, comprising:

an analyzer for analyzing the fuel composition,

a computing unit for calculating a current Wobbe index of the fuel composition based on the analysis,

an updating unit for adjusting the regulator and the fuel control valves based on the calculated current Wobbe index.

17. (new) The gas turbine system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the gas turbine system comprises a pilot burner stage and a main burner stage.

18. (new) The gas turbine system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the gas turbine system comprises:

a fuel line through which a fuel flows;

a branching point on the fuel line for branching off a part of the fuel and for introducing the branched off fuel as an analysis sample flow; and

a branch line which feeds the analysis sample flow to the analyzer of the control device,

wherein a distance between the branching point and the fuel control valves is sufficiently elongated to allow:

the analyzer to fully analyze the fuel composition of the sample flow,

the computing unit to fully calculate the current Wobbe index.

the updating unit to fully adjust the regulator and the fuel control valves before the fuel reaches the fuel control valves.